

UPDATE

St. Lucie County

April 15, 2006

A Monthly Update of Current Events and Happenings within St. Lucie

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This update is published monthly by the St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners' Public Information Office.
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Board of County Commissioners Special Meetings & Workshops Scheduled

 The Board of County Commissioners will hold a Workshop with the Research & Education Authority on Tuesday, May 1, 2006, from 2:00 until 5:00 p.m. in the County Commission Chambers.

St. Lucie County Employees Earn United Way's Circle of Honor

On April 11, the Board of County Commissioners and the employees of St. Lucie County were presented with the United Way Circle of Honor. The Circle of Honor award was created to give proper recognition to the organizations that truly support the mission of the United Way. The honor is designed not only to recognize dollar contributions, but also the quality of the campaign, and employee support specific to the United Way.

Care to Share Program

The Red Cross has administered the FPL Care to Share Funds for the five County area and the Salvation Army has screened St. Lucie County residents for eligibility. The Red Cross notified FPL that as of June 30, 2006, they would not be renewing the agreement. FPL requested that the County administer the funds and continue the partnership with the Salvation Army. On April 11, the Board of County Commissioners approved the participation agreement with FPL in the Care to Share Program and the Salvation Army.

River Park Marina Renovations Underway

On April 11, the Board of County Commissioners approved the "Invitation for Bids" for the purchase and installation of riprap, fishing dock, boating docks, landscaping and signs for the River Park Marina. The Board of County Commissioners also approved the use of Park "B" Impact Fees in the amount of \$30,000 to assist with the expansion of the parking area to accommodate boat trailers. Construction is scheduled to begin later this year.

Spur Jetty at South Beach

The 200-foot spur jetty off of the Jetty at South Beach was constructed in 1997 to help minimize sand loss around the inlet and provide stability to the shoreline. After the spur jetty suffered major surface damage from Hurricanes Frances, Jeanne and Wilma, the Erosion District Board approved Work Authorization No. 3 with Coastal Technology Corporation in the amount of \$24,229 to engineer the repairs to the spur jetty. The repairs are expected to begin Summer 2006.

St. Lucie County Master Gardeners "Spring Into Gardening" Festival

The St. Lucie County Master Gardeners will hold their "Spring Into Gardening" Festival on Saturday, April 22, 2006, from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the St. Lucie County Extension Office on Picos Road in Fort Pierce. For more information, contact the Extension Office at 462-1660.

Veterans Golf Tournament

The 15th Annual United Veterans Golf Tournament will be on Saturday, April 22, 2006, at Fairwinds Golf Course beginning at 8:30 a.m. For more information, please call (772) 871-5416.

Annual Earth Day Celebration at the Oxbow Eco-Center

The Oxbow Eco-Center will host their Annual Earth Day Celebration on Saturday, April 22, 2006, from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. For more information, please call (772) 785-5833.

Fly-In Open House

The St. Lucie International Airport will hold a fly-in - Open House on Saturday, April 29, 2006, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. For more information, please call (772) 462-1732.

Pitch, Hit & Run

St. Lucie County Parks and Recreation will host "Pitch, Hit & Run," the Official Skills Competition of Major League Baseball, on May 6, 2006, at 9:00 a.m. at the Lawnwood Complex, Softball Field No. 1 in Fort Pierce. For more information, please call (772) 462-1521.

Environmental Resources Department Special Events

Pinelands Treasure Hunt ~ Saturday, April 15 at 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. ~ Come discover modern treasure-hunt adventures at Pinelands natural Area. With the help of Global Positioning Systems (GPS) units, a new outdoor hobby has been created worldwide where one can find another's hidden treasures. GPS units are optional. For more information call 772-462-2526 or go online to www.geocaching.com to learn more.

Upcoming Events at the Oxbow Eco-Center

Junior Naturalist Summer Camp ~ June 12 - June 16, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. ~ Young nature-lovers and budding biologists will thrive at the Oxbow Eco-Center's Junior Naturalist Summer Camp. This day camp focuses on nature study and artistic expression. For children ages 8 - 11. Cost for the camp is \$150.00. For more information, please contact Wren Underwood at underwoe@stlucieco.gov or call 772-785-5842.

Guided Hikes ~ Every Saturday at 10:00 a.m. ~ Join a naturalist and take a hike through the Oxbow forest. Free. No reservations are needed.

Upcoming Events at the Library

Orchids ~ Wednesday, April 19 at 1:30 p.m. ~ The Fort Pierce Library and Mother Nature with help from her friends, the Master Gardeners, presents Orchids information and guidance on how to care for and enjoy orchids. Event is Free. For more information, please call 772-462-2787.

Stormscaping ~ Wednesday, April 26 at 1:30 p.m. ~ The Fort Pierce Library and Mother Nature with help from her friends, the Master Gardeners, presents Stormscaping information and guidance on how to reduce wind and storm damage. A must see program with hurricane season upon us. Event is free. For more information, please call 772-462-2787.

ZoraFest 2006

ZoraFest 2006, the second annual event celebrating the life of Zora Neale Hurston, is scheduled for April 28 through April 30. Festivities will take place at Lincoln Park Academy located at 1806 Avenue I in Fort Pierce. For more information regarding ZoraFest, please contact the St. Lucie County Cultural Affairs Department at (772) 462-2548 or email Debra Brisson at brissond@stlucieco.gov.

Joseph E. Smith, District 1 ● Doug Coward, District 2 ● Paula A. Lewis, District 3
Frannie Hutchinson, District 4 ● Chris Craft, District 5

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